

natural love. At his coming He will bring his saints, his elect, his bride with him to share the glory of his triumph. This is "the blessed hope of the glorious appearing of the great God, and our Savior Jesus Christ."

Now what is our hope, are we looking to man to evolve himself into glory in spite of every prediction of the word of God to the contrary, or are we looking to Jesus to redeem his promises by his almighty powers? Has rationalism so dulled our perceptions, and destroyed our faith that we have dismissed all hope of the supernatural from our minds?

As our faith and hope is so will our life and work be; if we have no definite hope, we have no definite aim. The thought of simply seeking salvation for our souls from hell is a very low and selfish one: God seeks to glorify himself in his saints. (Eph. 1:18.) He is seeking a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; to be joint heirs with his Son, to reign and rule with him in future ages. Jesus declared such to be the divine purpose in Rev. 2:26. He saith "To him that overcometh and keepeth my words unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations." Again Rev. 3:21, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." The conditions of heirship are, to keep his works unto the end, and overcome as he overcame. Man must by faithfulness and self denial prove his worthiness to become a joint heir as he says, "Behold I come quickly, and my reward is with me to give every man according as his work shall be." Rev. 22:12. In another connection Jesus says, "If ye love me keep my commandments." Again he says, "He that hath my commandments and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." These passages together with many others, not quoted, prove conclusively that obedience to the Savior's commandments is the condition of an heirship with him. If we are stubborn or indifferent to his commandments we can not enter into the blessed hope of his glorious appearing: if our works are to be burned up, and we saved only so as by fire, we will not glorify God, and his appearing will not be glorious to us. If we want to enjoy the supernatural hope of his glorious coming we must live a supernatural life.

## Our Young People

### FEETWASHING—ITS SIGNIFICATION

John 13:1; 1 Tim. 5:10

Topic for Feb. 26.

We come now to the third of the series of twelve doctrinal topics which we are to study during the year. It is far better to study something for one's self than to listen to a discourse by another upon the subject. The study of these doctrinal subjects may not prove as interesting as the study of some other subjects but it *should* be interesting to all because these ordinances are concrete symbols of the fundamental truths of the Christian life. They are meant to teach and preserve the greatest lessons of Christianity. We should study them from this point of view. They are not arbitrary commands to be obeyed mechanically but means of grace and spiritual growth. They must be observed with the spirit and

the understanding or they will be of little value. Let us see then the spiritual teaching of feet-washing.

Under the old covenant, in the Mosaic dispensation the priests ministered daily about the outer court offering sacrifices and performing ablutions but into the holy of holies the high priest went but once a year to make atonement for the people. (Lev. 16:34.) Jesus is our high priest and he went into the holy of holies once for all and by his own blood made atonement for sin. (Heb. 9) Now under the new covenant baptism represents to us the cleansing once for all by the blood of Christ which was typified under the old by the yearly atonement of the high priest and feetwashing typifies the frequent cleansing which we need for sins committed along the way. "He that is bathed," said Christ "needeth not save to wash his feet." (John 13:10, 11, R. V.) That is, He that is baptized is cleansed once for all from past sin, is born once for all into the kingdom and needeth only by the ordinance of feet-washing to typify the frequent forgiveness he must seek as his weak human nature falls into temptation by the way. Thus baptism perpetuates the promise, Mark 16:16, and feet-washing that of 1 John 1:9.

If we once see the meaning of the ordinance it loses all the repulsiveness it may have had and becomes a beautiful and impressive symbol full of meaning and blessing. As young people we should seek to understand it so that we may gain its fullest lessons and be able to give an answer to those who may speak lightly of it because they know not what they do.

#### THE SCRIPTURES ON FEET-WASHING

1. Feet-washing has a spiritual significance. John 13:11.
2. That significance is to be understood. John 13:7.
3. Feet-washing a symbol of cleansing. John 13:10, 11.
4. The promise of cleansing. 1 John 1:9.
5. The duty of purity. Isa 52:11.
6. Feet-washing a lesson in humility. John 13:12-14.
7. The duty of humility. Matt. 20:28; Luke 14:11; 1 Peter 5:5.

#### FOR DISCUSSION IN THE MEETING

1. What was the ancient custom of feet washing and how did it differ from this ordinance?
2. What is the purpose of ordinances?
3. What are the ordinances of the New Testament?
4. What gives feet-washing the authority of an ordinance? Show that it has, 1. Christ's precept, John 13:14. 2. his example, v. 10. 3. a blessing promised for obedience, v. 17. 4. a punishment for disobedience, v. 8. 5. practiced by the church, 1 Tim. 5:10. 6. a symbol, vs 9-11.
5. Is the ordinance of feet-washing needed now as much as in Christ's day?
6. Will the ordinances ever be done away?
7. How should we prepare our hearts to observe the ordinances?
8. What will result from neglect of the ordinances?
9. (For all to answer) What blessings have you realized in observing the ordinance of feet-washing.

To the leader Have the members bring their Bibles and mark passages. You should study everything you can get on the subject and be able to answer all questions and make clear all passages. Get your pastor to help you.

C. F. YODER.

#### Pleasant Hill, Ohio

Having been appointed by the president of our society as press correspondent, I thought that a short letter concerning the working of the King's Children at Pleasant Hill will be of some little interest to our friends. Our society has been gradually growing in strength spiritually as well as in numbers, and fruits of the good work being done is thus shown in our growth. We have a corps of good

officers, earnest and zealous in their different labors, striving for the upbuilding of the cause of Christ, tearing down the strongholds of sin. We are entering upon a series of revival meeting and may it be shown that we are indeed soldiers of the cross. Our pastor, Brother White, is earnestly presenting the gospel and if we prove true much good will be accomplished. Pray for us that we may ever remain true, valiant soldiers serving in "God's army," and that we may never be found "idle in the market place."

W. N. TUCKER.

#### "The Secret of His Presence"

BY A BRAHMAN LADY

In the secret of His presence,  
How my soul delights to hide?  
O, how precious are the lessons  
Which I learn at Jesus' side!  
Earthly cares can never vex me,  
Neither trials lay me low,  
For when Satan comes to tempt me,  
To the secret place I go.

When my soul is faint and thirsty,  
'Neath the shadow of His wing.  
There is cool and pleasant shelter,  
And a fresh and crystal spring:  
And my Savior rests beside me,  
As we hold communion sweet;  
If I tried I could not utter  
What He says when thus we meet:  
Only this I know: I tell Him  
All my doubts and griefs and fears.  
O, how patiently He listens,  
And my drooping soul He cheers!  
Do you think He ne'er reproves me?  
What a strange Friend He would be  
If He never, never told me  
Of the sins which He must see!

Do you think that I could love Him  
Half so well, or as I ought,  
If He did not tell me plainly  
Of each sinful deed and thought?  
No, He is very faithful,  
And that makes me trust Him more,  
For I know that He does love me,  
Tho He wounds me very sore.

Would you like to know the sweetness  
Of the secret of the Lord?  
Go and hide beneath His shadow;  
This shall then be your reward.  
And whene'er you leave the silence  
Of that happy meeting place,  
You must mind and bear the image  
Of the Master in your face.

You will surely lose the blessing  
And the fulness of your joy,  
If you let dark clouds distress you,  
And your inward peace destroy.  
You may always be abiding,  
If you will, at Jesus' side;  
In the secret of His presence  
You may every moment hide.

—The Christian Advocate.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

##### The Missionary Committee and Its Work

Some time ago I asked each society to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than five members to be known as the "Missionary Committee" of each society. I assume that all societies that intend to follow my suggestions have appointed this committee and are waiting for further suggestions. Such suggestions I hope to now give